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L A N S D O W N - H I L L.

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O D E
T O
L A N S D O W N - H I L L,
WITH NOTES, MOSTLY RELATIVE
TO THE GRANVILLE FAMILY;
TO WHICH ARE ADDED,
TWO LETTERS OF ADVICE FROM
GEORGE LORD LANSDOWN,
ANNO MDCCXI, TO
WILLIAM HENRY EARL OF BATH.

L O N D O N:
PRINTED BY J. NICHOLS,
FOR W. RANDALL, PALL-MALL.
M D C C L X X X V.

O D E

T O

L A S D O W N - H I L L

WITH NOTES, MOSTLY RELATIVE

TO THE CRANVILLE FAMILIES

TO WHOM ALL ARE

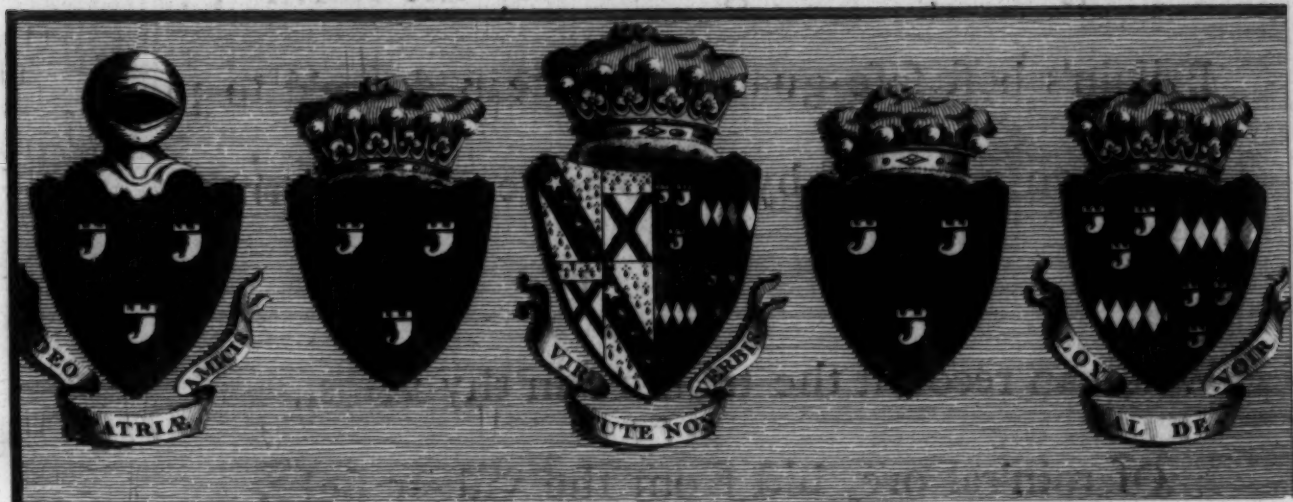
AND TO THE

GEORGE LORD LANSLOW

AND TO

WILLIAM LANSLOW





I.

HAIL verdant LANSDOWN ! health-restoring hill !
That o'er the thermal city, BATH, presides ;

'Tis from thy sources her warm lavers fill,

And chearful vigour reigns o'er all thy rides.

II.

Like wakeful Minister, in high command,

Thy views are all extensive, far and wide :

Here thou survey'st rich Agriculture's hand ;

And Commerce, there, on Severn's foaming tide².

III.

Lo ! where the prospect blackens on yon brow ³,
 Huge navy-building Oaks defy the storm ⁴;
 Britain's best safe-guard, the Ocean doom'd to plow,
 When wrought by art Dædalean into form.

IV.

Who can recount the treasure in thy veins,
 Of min'ral ore, hid from the vulgar fight,
 Under the surface of thy mossy plains ;
 But brought by persevering toil to light ?

V.

And who can sum the population great
 Which thy broad eye contemplates all around ?
 Fair token of our happier govern'd state,
 Now waiving War gives way to Peace profound !

VI.

Stern Liberty and Loyalty in strife ⁵,
 Which History, in mournful mood, doth tell ⁶,
 'Twas on thy summit where bled many a life ⁷,
 And martial virtue in a GRANVILLE fell ⁸ !

VII.



VII.

When CROMWELL's Rule imperious⁹ ceas'd in death;

And Anarchy had near unsheath'd her sword¹⁰,

Thy Hero's Son¹¹ exerted patriot faith,

In mediating regal right restor'd.

VIII.

With thee conjoin'd, thy favour'd city owns

Th' entitled Patriot¹² and his gallant Son:

And LANSDOWN¹³! Austria's trumpets' echoing tones

Resound, on Danube's banks, for Victory won.

IX.

Thy honours, last, beam'd forth with lyric fire

In BEVIL's Grandson¹⁴, he, whose tuneful lines

Rais'd him to splendid rank in Phoebus' choir¹⁵.——

Next, GRANVILLE's name in female beauty shines¹⁶.

X.

CART'RET, her son¹⁷, belov'd by ev'ry Muse,

Replete with virtuous well-acquir'd fame,

Succeeded in her right, and Merit's dues,

And gave new lustre to thy Hero's name!

XI.

XI.

PETTY¹⁸ with filial tie, and noblest blood,

Now bears thy title (Augustus¹⁹ so decrees) :

Great instrument of Peace restor'd²⁰, and Good,

To Britain's Isles, and the Britannic Seas !

XII.

O may thy honours, down to latest time,

In him and in his Sons resplendent last !

And may he rear his head, like thee sublime,

Serene, resisting Winter's rudest blast !



NOTES



NOTES.

1 **L**ANSDOWN, one of the most conspicuous and happy-situated hills in the West of England; rich in mineral veins, which are considered as the principal source of the warm sulphureous springs of *Bath*; and famous for the breed of sheep fattened by its delicate herbage, and clothed with fleeces of the finest wool; as well as for the annual equestrian races held there, and the healthful convenient rides it affords to the neighbouring convalescents of Bath. Among other extensive views, the hill overlooks, at eighteen miles distance Eastward, the Marquess of Lansdown's noble estate at the Western foot of Marlborough Downs. The plate annexed to the title-page gives a view of Lansdown, and of the ~~Circus~~ at Bath beneath.

| Crescent

2 One spot commands a view of Bath and Bristol, fifteen miles asunder; and of the Severn to a great extent.

3 The great forest of *Dean*, in the county of Gloucester, on the borders of Wales.

4 Imitated from *Metafasio* :

“Sprezza il furor del Vento

“Robusta querce avvezza

“Di cento verni e cento

“Le ingiurie a tollerar.”

5 Civil war, which ended in the decapitation of Charles I.; the defeat and flight of Charles II. to the Continent; and the slaughter of their nobles, and most loyal adherents.

6 Vide Clarendon.

7 Battle of Lansdown, July 5, 1643.

8 “In this battle,” Clarendon says, “on the king's part were more officers and gentlemen of quality slain than private men; but that which would have clouded any victory, and made the loss of others less spoken of, was
C “the

“ the death of *Sir Bevil Granville*. He was indeed an excellent person, whose
 “ activity, interest, and reputation, were the foundation of what had been
 “ done in Cornwall (his native province); and his temper and affection so
 “ public-spirited, that no accident which happened could make any impres-
 “ sion in him; and his example kept others from taking any thing ill, or, at
 “ least, seeming to do so. In a word, a brighter courage and a gentler dis-
 “ position were never married together, to make the most chearful and inno-
 “ cent conversation.” Sir Bevil’s ancestors were originally seated at Corbeil
 (Isle de France). They descended from Rollo first duke of Normandy, and
 came into England with William the Conqueror. See Camden, Dugdale, &c.
 The plate at the end of the Ode gives a view of the monument erected to
 his memory, by his grandson, on the summit of Lansdown.

9 Oliver the great usurper, under the title of Protector, &c.

10 Under Richard Cromwell’s feeble Protectorate, and the turbulent rum-
 pers, &c. Vide Clarendon, Ludlow, &c.

11 Sir John Granville, eldest son of Sir Bevil, the only person entrusted by
 King Charles II. and General Monk, in the arduous affair of the Restoration
 of Monarchy and Episcopacy anno 1660. Dr. Johnson, our great poetical
 biographer, says, that “ Bernard Granville, a younger son of Sir Bevil, and
 “ groom of the bed-chamber to Charles II. was, under Monk, the great in-
 “ strument of the Restoration;” but History declares that Sir John only was
 employed; and he certainly had all the honours of the mediation, among
 which was, by warrant under privy-seal, the reversion of Monk’s title, Al-
 bemarle. Dugdale says, that Sir John was a near kinsman to Gen. Monk.

12 Sir John above-mentioned, created Viscount Granville of Lansdown and
 Earl of Bath, anno 1661. He died July 22, 1701, and was buried at Kilk-
 hampton, in Cornwall, in which county, and in Devonshire, &c. his paternal
 ancestors were possessed of Biddeford and other manors before the reign of
 Henry II. He traced his illustrious descent from the Courténays earls of
 Devonshire, the Bohuns earls of Hereford, and by them from King Edward I.
 as also from the Beaumonts, the lords Bonville, the Gages, the St. Legers,
 and many other antient and honourable families. He was moreover made
 lord warden of the stannaries of Cornwall, which honourable office was suc-
 cessively conferred on his second son John lord Granville of Potheridge, and
 on his nephew George lord Lansdown. His titles at large were Earl of Bath,
 Corbeil, Thorigny, and Granville; Viscount Granville of Lansdown; Baron
 Granville of Biddiford and Kilkhampton; Lord-warden of the stannaries;
 chief

chief steward of the duchy of Cornwall; ranger of St. James's Park; and one of the lords of his Majesty's most honourable privy-council. The Vignette at the head of the Ode represents the arms of the Granville family and descendants.

13 Charles Granville, eldest son of John, created Count Lansdown of the Holy Roman Empire, by the emperor Leopold II. for military services in Hungary; summoned to parliament as baron Granville anno 1 Gul. & Mariæ, 1689; succeeded his father, as earl of Bath, July 22, 1701; and died in September following. All his titles became extinct in his son William Henry, who died unmarried anno 1711, whilst serving a campaign under the great Duke of Marlborough in Flanders, and just after his appointment to the Lord-lieutenancy of Cornwall, though yet a minor. His brother John was created baron Granville (an estate inherited from Monk duke of Albemarle), 2^o Annæ 1702, but died, without issue, December 3, 1707.

14 George, second son of Bernard, who was the fourth son of Sir Bevil Granville, created Baron Lansdown of Biddeford, by patent, 1 Jan. 10^o Annæ, 1711. He was a distinguished dramatic, lyric, and heroic poet. Vide Giles Jacob, Mr. H. Walpole, and Dr. Johnson.

15 Dryden, "the great high-priest of all the Nine," complimented his lordship on his tragedy of *Heroic Love* in the following verses:

"Auspicious Poet, were not thou my friend,
"How I could envy what I must commend!
"But since 'tis Nature's law, in love and wit,
"That Youth should reign, and with'ring Age submit,
"With less regret these laurels I resign,
"Which, dying on my brows, revive on thine."

Pope begins one of his first and best poems thus:

"Thy forests, *Windsor*! and thy green retreats,
"At once the Monarch's and the Muse's seats,
"Invite my lays. Be present, sylvan Maids!
"Unlock your springs, and open all your shades:
"*Granville* commands; your aid O Muses bring;
"What Muse for *Granville* can refuse to sing?"

Pope further adds:

"Who now shall charm the shades where Cowley strung
"His living harp, and lofty Denham sung?"

"But hark! the Groves rejoice, the Forest rings!

"Are these reviv'd? or is it *Granville* sings?

"'Tis yours, *My Lord*, to blest our soft retreats,

"And call the Muses to their ancient seats.

.....

"To sing those honours you deserve to wear,

"And add new lustre to her silver star."

Again,

"Here noble Surrey felt the sacred rage:

"Surrey, the *Granville* of a former age:

.....

"Fair Geraldine, bright object of his vow,

"Then fill'd the Groves, as heavenly *Myra* * now."

And lastly,

"The thoughts of Gods let *Granville's* verse recite,

"And bring the scenes of op'ning fate to light:

"My humble Muse, in unambitious strains,

"Paints the green forest and the flow'ry plains,

"Where Peace, descending, bids her olives spring,

"And scatters blessings from her dove-like wing."

In Pope's Prologue to his Satires are the two following lines:

"Why did I publish! *Granville*, the polite,

"And knowing Walsb would tell me I could write."

Of his Lordship's prose a specimen is given, as a supplement to these Notes, in two Letters to his young kinsman William Henry Earl of Bath; full of genuine patriotism and philanthropy, with all the energy of parental affection.

16 Lady Grace Granville, granddaughter of Sir Bevil, and daughter of John first earl of Bath, married to George lord Carteret, became, by the death of her nephew William Henry earl of Bath, anno 1711, one of the coheirs of her father's great estate in Cornwall; and (vide Note 12) in consideration of his great services at the Restoration, was, on the 17th of December, 1714, anno primo Georgii I. created Vicountess Carteret and Countess Granville, with limitation of those honours to her son, (mentioned in the next note) and remainder of the title of vicount to Edward Carteret her brother-in-law, and the heirs male of his body.

* Countess of Newburgh.

17 John lord Carteret, Knight of the most noble order of the Garter, succeeded to his mother's title, as Earl Granville, on her decease anno 1744. Equally admired for his classic learning, and his great knowledge and experience in state affairs, he was early in life made ambassador to France, and other powers; also lord-lieutenant of Ireland, tempore Geor. I.; afterwards a principal secretary of state under George II.; and died, lord-president of his majesty's (George III.) privy-council, Jan. 2, 1763.

Robert Wood, Esq; under-secretary of state, in the Preface to his Essay on the Original Genius of Homer, gives the following account of his lordship's dying sentiments and love of learning to the last.

"The duties of my situation engaging me occasionally to attend upon the late earl Granville, who, though he presided at his majesty's councils, generally reserved some moments for literary amusement, his lordship was so partial to this subject, that I seldom had the honour of receiving his commands on business, that he did not lead the conversation to Greece and Homer. Being directed to wait upon his lordship, a few days before he died, with the preliminary articles of the treaty of Paris, I found him so languid that I proposed postponing my business for another time; but he insisted that I should stay, saying, it could not prolong his life to neglect his duty; and, repeating a passage out of Sarpedon's speech in the Iliad, dwelt with particular emphasis on a line which recalled to his mind the distinguished part he had taken in public affairs, beginning at ὦ πάτερ, &c. Il. M. 322. to ἵομεν, ver. 328. (thus translated by Pope):

"Could all our cares elude the gloomy grave,
Which claims no less the fearful than the brave,
For lust of fame, I should not vainly dare
In fighting fields, nor urge thy soul to war.
But since, alas! ignoble age must come,
Disease and Death's inexorable doom;
The life which others pay let us bestow,
And give to Fame what we to Nature owe."

"His lordship then repeated the last word ἵομεν*, *Eamus*, several times with a calm and determined resignation; and, after a serious pause of some minutes, he desired to hear the treaty read, to which he listened with great attention; and recovered spirits enough to declare the approbation of a dying statesman (I use his own words) on the most glorious War, and the most honourable Peace, this country ever saw."

* Left by Pope untranslated.

18 William Fitzmaurice Petty earl of *Shelburne*, knight of the garter, and now marquess of Lansdown, &c. is descended from Walter Fitzother, constable of the castle, and steward of the county of Pembroke in Wales: whose two grandsons, Maurice and William, went over to Ireland with Richard Strongbow earl of Pembroke, settled there, and founded the two equally noble families of Fitzgerald dukes of Leinster, and Fitzmaurice earls of Kerry. His first lady was Sophia youngest daughter of the earl Granville above-mentioned. The adopted name of *Petty* and title of *Shelburne* is derived, with a princely estate in Ireland, &c. from his maternal great-uncle Henry earl of Shelburne, son of the great *Sir William Petty*, immortalized by his "Survey of Ireland," and other valuable patriotic works.

19 George Augustus III. king, &c.

20 Anno 1782.

Two Letters referred to, at the end of Note 15.

TO WILLIAM HENRY, Earl of Bath, &c. at the Camp in Flanders,
Sept. 4, 1711.

MY DEAR LORD,

WHILST you are pursuing Honour in the field, in the earliest time of your life, after the example of your Ancestors, I am commanded by the Queen to let you know, she has declared you her Lord-lieutenant of the county of Cornwall; the Earl of Rochester to act for you, till you are of age.

You will do well to write your most humble thanks to her Majesty, for so graciously remembering you, unsolicited, in your absence: you should likewise do the same to my lord Rochester, for accepting the trouble.

This, my Dear Lord, is a preparative to bring you upon the stage with some lustre at your first appearance in the world. You are placed at the head of a body of Gentry, entirely disposed in affection to you, and your family: you are born possessed of all those amiable qualities which cannot fail of fixing their hearts: you have no other example to follow, but to tread in the steps of your Ancestors: it is all that is hoped, or desired from you.

You are upon an uncommon foundation in that part of the world: your Ancestors, for at least five hundred years, never made any alliance, male or female, out of the Western counties. Thus there is hardly a gentleman, either in Cornwall or Devon, but has some of your blood, or you some of theirs. I remember, the first time I accompanied your grandfather into the
4 West,

West, upon holding his parliament of Tinnars, as Warden of the Stannaries, when there was the most numerous appearance of gentry of both counties that had ever been remembered together: I observed there was hardly any one but whom he called Cousin, and I could not but observe at the same time how well they were pleased with it. Let this be a lesson for you when it comes to your turn to appear amongst them. Nothing is more obliging than to seem to retain the memory of kindred and alliances, though never so remote: and by consequence, nothing more disobliging, than a forgetfulness of them: which is always imputed to an affected, disdainful superiority and pride.

There is another particular, in my opinion of no small consequence to the support of your interest, which I would recommend to your imitation: and that is to make Stowe* your principal residence. I have heard your grandfather say, if ever he lived to be possessed of New-Hall, he would pull it down, that your father might have no temptation to withdraw from the antient seat of his family. From the Conquest to the Restoration, your ancestors constantly resided amongst their country-men, except when the publick service called upon them to sacrifice their lives for it.

Stowe, in my grandfather's time, till the civil wars broke out, was a kind of Academy for all the young men of family in the country: he provided himself with the best masters of all kinds for education; and the children of his neighbours and friends shared the advantage with his own. Thus he, in a manner, became the Father of his Country, and not only engaged the affection of the present generation, but laid a foundation of friendship for posterity, which is not worn out at this day.

Upon this foundation, my Lord, you inherit friends without the trouble of making them, and have only to preserve them: an easy task for you, to whom Nature has been so liberal of every quality, necessary to attract affection, and gain the heart.

I must tell you, the generality of our countrymen have been always Royalists: you inherit too much loyal blood to like them the worse. There is an old saying amongst them; That a *Godolphin* was never known to want wit; a *Trelawney*, courage; or, a *Granville*, loyalty: Wit, and Courage, are not to be mistakon; and to give those families their due, they still keep up to their character: but it is the misfortune of Loyalty, not to be so clearly

* Not in the county of Bucks, but in Cornwall.

understood,

understood, or defined. In a country subject to revolutions, what passes for loyalty to-day, may be treason to-morrow: but I make great difference between real, and nominal treason. In the quarrel of the houses of York and Lancaster, both sides were proclaimed traitors, as the other prevailed: even under Cromwell's usurpation, all who adhered to the king were proclaimed traitors, and suffered as such: but this makes no alteration in the thing itself: it may be enacted treason to call black, black; or white, white: but black will be black, and white will be white, in spite of all the legislators in the world.

There can be no doubt about allegiance, unless Princes become tyrants, and then they cease to be Kings: they will no longer be respected as God's vice-gerents, who violate the laws they were sworn to protect. The preacher may tell us of passive obedience: that tyrants are to be patiently suffered as scourges in the hands of a righteous God, to chastise a sinful nation; and to be submitted to, like plagues, famines, and such-like judgements from above. Such doctrine, were it true, could only serve to mislead ill-judging princes into a false security: Men are not to be reasoned out of their senses: Human nature, and self-preservation, will eternally arm against slavery and oppression.

It is therefore not to be supposed that even the weakest prince would run that hazard, unless seduced by advice wickedly palliated by evil counsellors. Nero himself, under the influence of a good ministry, was the mildest, the most gracious, and best beloved of the Emperors: the most sanguinary, the most profligate, and the most abhorred, under a bad one. A prince may be deceived, or mistaken, in the choice of his favourites: but he has this advantage, he is sure to hear of it from the voice of the public: If then he is deaf, he seems to take upon himself the blame and odium of those actions, which were chargeable before but upon his advisers.

Idle murmurs, groundless discontents, and pretended jealousies and fears, the effect of private prejudice, and resentments, have been, and will ever be, under the wisest administrations: We are pestered with them even now, when we have a Queen, who is known to have nothing so much at heart as the contentment of her people: these are transitory vapours, which scatter at the first appearance of light: the infection spreads no farther than a particular sett of squire, splenetick enthusiasts in politicks, not worth minding, or correcting. Universal discontent can never happen but from solid provocations.

Many well-meaning persons, however, abounding in zeal, have been often
unwarily

unwarily caught by popular pretences, and not undeceived, till 'twas too late. Have a care, my dear Cousin, of splitting upon that rock : There have been false patriots, as well as false prophets

To fear God, and honour the King, were injunctions so closely tacked together, that they seem to make but one and the same command : a man may as well pretend to be a good Christian, without fearing God ; as a good subject, without honouring the King.

DEO, PATRIÆ, AMICIS, was your great grand-father Sir *Bevil's* motto : in three words he has added to his example a rule, which in following, you can never err in any duty of life. The brightest courage, and the gentlest disposition, is a part of the Lord Clarendon's character of him : so much of him you have begun to shew us already ; and the best wish I can make you, is, To resemble him as much in all—but his untimely fate.

My DEAR LORD,

I am for ever, &c.

GEORGE GRANVILLE.

Second LETTER to the same, Sept. 22.

EVERY living creature, my dear Lord, is entitled to offices of humanity : the distress, even of an enemy, should reconcile us to him : if he thirsts, give him drink ; if he hungers, give him food ; overcome evil with good. It is with this disposition I would have you enter into the exercise of that authority, with which her majesty has honoured you over your countrymen. Let no body inspire you with party-prejudices, and resentments. Let it be your business to reconcile differences, and heal divisions ; and to restore, if possible, harmony and good-neighbourhood amongst them. If then there should be any left to wish you ill, make them ashamed and confounded with your goodness and moderation : not that I would ever advise you to sacrifice one hair of the head of an old friend to your family, to gain fifty new-ones ; but if you can encrease the number, by courtesy and moderation, it may be worth the trial.

Believe me, my dear Lord, humanity and generosity make the best foundation to build a character upon : a man may have birth, and riches, and power ; wit, learning, courage ; but without Generosity, it is impossible to be a great man. Whatever the rich and powerful may think of themselves, whatever

D

value

value they may set upon their abundance and grandeur, they will find themselves but the more hated and despised for the ill use they make of it. You should look upon yourselves but as stewards and trustees for the distressed: your over-abundance is but a deposit for the use and relief of the unhappy: you are answerable for all superfluities mispent. It is not to be supposed, that Providence would have made such distinctions among men, such unequal distributions, but that they might endear themselves to one another, by mutual helps and obligations. Gratitude is the surest cement of love, friendship, and society.

There are, indeed, rules to be observed, and measures to be kept, in the distribution of favours: we know who have both the power and inclination to do good, but for want of judgement in the direction, they pass only for good-natured fools, instead of generous benefactors.

My Lord —— will grudge a guinea to an honest gentleman in distress, but readily give twenty to a common strumpet. Another shall refuse to lend fifty pound to his best friend without sufficient security; and the next moment set his whole fortune upon a card, or a dye: a chance for which he can have no security. My Lord —— is to be seen every day at a toy-shop, squandering away his money in trinkets and baubles: and at the same time leaves his brothers and sisters without common necessaries.

Generosity does not consist in a contempt of money, in throwing it away at random, without judgement or distinction; though that, indeed, is better than locking it up; for multitudes have the benefit of it; but in a right disposition, to proper objects, in proportion to the merit, the circumstances, the rank, and condition of those who stand in need of our service.

Princes are more exposed than any others to the mis-placing their favours: merit is ever modest, and keeps its distance: the forward and importunate stand always nearest in sight; and are not to be put out of countenance, nor thrust out of the way. I remember to have heard a saying of the late King James, *That he never knew a modest man make his way in a court.* David Floyd, whom you know, being then in waiting at his majesty's elbow, replied bluntly, *Pray, Sir, whose Fault's that?* The king stood corrected, and was silent.

If Princes could see with their own eyes, and hear with their own ears, what a happy situation it would be both for themselves and their subjects: to reward merit; to redress the injured; to relieve the oppressed; to raise the modest;

modest; to humble the insolent : What a God-like prerogative ! were a right use made of it.

How happy are you, my dear Lord, who are born with such generous inclinations, with judgement to direct them ; and the means to indulge them. Of all men most miserable is he, who has the inclination, without the means. To meet with a deserving object of compassion, without having the power to give relief, of all the circumstances in life, is the most disagreeable : to have the power is the greatest pleasure.

Methinks I see you ready to cry out,--“ Good Cousin, why this discourse “ to me ? What occasion have I for these lectures ? ” None at all, my dear Lord : I am only making my court to you, by letting you see, I think as you do.

But one word more, and I have done.

In trust, intimacy, and confidence, be as particular as you please : in humanity, charity and benevolence, universal.

I am, for ever, &c.

GEORGE GRANVILLE.



MONUMENTUM AERE PERENNIOUS.

